

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) A system for monitoring at least one apparatus in a vehicle comprising:

at least one sensor situated in the vehicle for sensing at least one error code of the at least one apparatus, the at least one sensor being electrically coupled to a vehicle bus;

a gateway node situated in the vehicle, the gateway node being electrically coupled to the vehicle bus, the at least one sensor for communicating the at least one error code to the gateway node via the vehicle bus using a network protocol, the gateway node including a controller arrangement and a first wireless protocol arrangement, the first wireless protocol arrangement being coupled to the controller arrangement; and

a processor, the gateway node communicating the at least one error code to the processor via a second wireless protocol arrangement that communicates with the first wireless protocol arrangement, using a wireless communication protocol;

wherein:

the at least one error code concerns diagnostics information and is accessible from the vehicle bus; and

the at least one sensor interrogates the at least one apparatus for the at least one error code in response to receipt of a request from the processor, the request being made by the processor in response to a user input.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the wireless communication protocol includes a Bluetooth protocol, the first wireless protocol arrangement includes a first Bluetooth hardware arrangement, and the second wireless protocol arrangement includes a second Bluetooth hardware arrangement.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the network protocol includes a Controller Area Network protocol.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the gateway node includes a Controller Area Network/Bluetooth gateway node.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the at least one apparatus is at least one of a brake system, an engine system, an electrical system, and an auxiliary system.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, further comprising:
a cellphone communicator electrically coupled to the processor; and
a remote application for communicating with the cellphone communicator via a cellphone base station;
wherein the remote application is for receiving the at least one error code.

27-28. (Canceled).

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the processor compares the at least one error code to a look-up table to determine a status code.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, wherein the status code is communicated to a user.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the status code is communicated to a user by at least one of a visual display unit and an audible signal.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the processor is in a hand-held computer to enable a user to display and analyze vehicle diagnostics on the handheld computer.

33. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring at least one apparatus in a vehicle, the method comprising:

sensing, with at least one sensor situated in the vehicle, at least one error code of the at least one apparatus, wherein the at least one sensor is electrically coupled to a vehicle bus that is also electrically coupled to a gateway node situated in the vehicle,

communicating, with the at least one sensor, the at least one error code to the gateway node via the vehicle bus using a network protocol, wherein the gateway node includes a controller arrangement and a first wireless protocol arrangement, and the first wireless protocol arrangement is coupled to the controller arrangement; and

communicating, from the gateway node to a processor, the at least one error code to the processor via a second wireless protocol arrangement that communicates with the first wireless protocol arrangement, using a wireless communication protocol;

wherein:

the at least one error code includes diagnostics information and is accessible from the vehicle bus; and

the sensing is performed in response to receipt of a request from the processor, the request being made by the processor in response to a user input.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

comparing by the processor the at least one error code to a look-up table to determine a status code.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

communicating the status code to a user.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

communicating the status code to a user by at least one of a visual display unit and an audible signal.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the wireless communication protocol includes a Bluetooth protocol, the first wireless protocol arrangement includes a first Bluetooth hardware arrangement, and the second wireless protocol arrangement includes a second Bluetooth hardware arrangement.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the network protocol includes a Controller Area Network protocol.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the at least one sensor: interrogates the at least one apparatus for the at least one error code periodically; and for each interrogation, responsive to a determination, based on a response to the respective interrogation, that no error code is available, provides an indication of the non-availability of the error code conditional upon the respective interrogation having been performed in response to the request.

41. (New) A system for monitoring an apparatus in a vehicle comprising:
a sensor situated in the vehicle configured to receive an indication of an error status in the apparatus;
a bus electrically coupled to the sensor; and
a gateway node including a Controller Area Network (CAN) protocol controller and a first wireless protocol arrangement, the CAN controller being electrically coupled to the bus and to the first wireless protocol arrangement;
wherein:

the sensor is configured to:

interrogate the apparatus for the error status indication in response to a request from any of a plurality of diagnostic processors and on its own initiative;

if the error status indication indicates no error in the apparatus, provide the error status indication to the CAN controller conditional upon that the request was received by the sensor; and

if the error status indication indicates an error, provide the error status indication to the CAN controller regardless of whether the request was received by the sensor;

the error status indication is provided by the sensor to the CAN controller via the bus using a CAN protocol;

the CAN controller is configured to provide the error status indication to the first wireless protocol arrangement;

the first wireless protocol arrangement is configured for wireless communication in which to provide the error status indication to each of the plurality of diagnostic processors, the plurality of diagnostic processors being of different processor types, each diagnostic processor one of including and coupled to a corresponding second wireless protocol arrangement via which the wireless communication occurs.

42. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the plurality of diagnostic processors include at least one portable diagnostic processor and at least one fixed diagnostic processor.